

## Message Text

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44

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 EA-07 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 /033 W

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R 260740Z AUG 75

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6607

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

UNCLAS HONG KONG 9839

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: REP. FINDLEY MEETS THE PRESS IN HONG KONG

1. REP. PAUL FINDLEY MET BRIEFLY WITH THE HONG KONG PRESS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF SEVERAL INTERNATIONAL WIRE SERVICES AUGUST 23 TO RELEASE TWO STATEMENTS HE HAD PREPARED ON HIS MEETING WITH ROK PRESIDENT PARK CHUNG HEE. HE ALSO COMMENTED ON HIS VISIT TO THE PRC. IN HIS FIRST STATEMENT, RELATING TO THE POSSIBLE EFFECT OF A CONGRESSIONAL VISIT TO PYONGYANG, REP. FINDLEY QUOTED PARK AS SAYING: QUOTE I DO NOT BELIEVE IT WOULD PERSUADE KIM IL-SUNG (PRESIDENT OF NORTH KOREA) TO OPEN NORTH KOREA'S SOCIETY TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD IN ANY WAY, NOR WOULD IT CHANGE HIS MIND A BIT. ON THE CONTRARY, HIS ONLY AIM WOULD BE TO USE THE VISIT TO DRIVE A WEDGE BETWEEN THE U.S. AND SOUTH KOREA. HE WOULD TRY TO PERSUADE THE U.S. THAT NORTH KOREA IS PEACEFUL AND WILL NOT USE MILITARY FORCE, AND THAT THE ONLY OBSTACLE TO A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IS THE PRESENCE OF U.S. FORCES IN THE SOUTH. NORTH KOREA IS NOW ENGAGED IN AN INTENSIVE EFFORT TO PERSUADE THE U.S. TO WITHDRAW FROM SOUTH KOREA. IT IS IMPORTANT TO SHATTER THE ILLUSION THAT PYONGYANG HAS PEACEFUL INTENTIONS. WE MUST PERSUADE KIM IL-SUNG THAT HE CANNOT TOPPLE SOUTH KOREA. OUR PRIMARY OBJECTIVE IS TO INCREASE OUR MILITARY STRENGTH TO THE POINT WHERE WE CAN DEFEND AGAINST THE NORTH WITHOUT U.S.

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TROOPS.

WITHIN FIVE YEARS OUR ECONOMY WILL IMPROVE AND OUR EFFORTS  
WILL TOTAL \$10 BILLION. WE WILL THEN HAVE IMPROVED OUR STRENGTH  
- MILITARY AND ECONOMIC - SO MUCH THAT NORTH KOREA WILL COME  
TO REALIZE IT CANNOT COLONIZE US. UNQUOTE

2. REP. FINDLEY'S SECOND STATEMENT HAD TO DO WITH PARK'S  
VIEWS ON THE EASING OF RESTRICTIONS ON BASIC LIBERTY IN SEOUL  
AND WHETHER THIS WOULD BRIGHTEN PROSPECTS FOR CONTINUED U.S.  
MILITARY SUPPORT. HE QUOTED PARK AS SAYING: QUOTE OUR COUNTRY  
IS DIVIDED. OUR CAPITAL IS ONLY 25 MILES FROM CONSTANT THREAT  
FROM THE NORTH. A YEAR AGO OUR FIRST LADY WAS ASSASSINATED.  
THERE HAVE BEEN OTHER ASSASSINATION ATTEMPTS. TUNNELS ARE  
BEING DUG UNDER OUR BORDER.

OUR CRITICS TRY TO MEASURE POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS HERE BY THE  
SAME YARDSTICK AS IN THE U.S. THE U.S. IS RICH, AFFLUENT,  
UNITED, AND WITH FRIENDLY NEIGHBORS.

U.S. DEMOCRACY IS BEST AND OUR IDEAL, BUT AT THIS TIME OF  
DANGERS WE CANNOT ENJOY THE SAME KIND OF LIBERTY AS IN THE  
U.S.

OUR MAIN GOAL MUST BE SURVIVAL. WHEN LINCOLN WAS PRESIDENT,  
YOUR NATION WAS DIVIDED AND IN DANGER. IN THAT CIRCUMSTANCE  
HE SUSPENDED SOME LIBERTIES.

IF THE U.S. IS A TRUE FRIEND, I AM CONVINCED IT MUST WANT SOUTH  
KOREA TO BE STABLE, STRONG, AND PROSPEROUS WITH A BASICALLY  
FREE GOVERNMENT.

AFTER WORLD WAR II, THE U.S. GAVE ASSISTANCE TO MANY ASIAN  
NATIONS WHICH TRIED TO ADOPT U.S. DEMOCRACY, BUT THIS HISTORY  
OF DEMOCRACY IS RATHER SHALLOW. WE MUST NOT LET OUR DEMOCRACY  
MEET THE SAME FATE AS VIETNAM. OUR RESTRICTIONS ON  
LIBERTY ARE LIMITED. ALL CITIZENS HAVE BASIC RIGHTS FULLY  
GUARANTEED AND THE LIMITED RESTRICTIONS ARE ONLY TEMPORARY.  
ALL MEASURES HAVE BEEN LAWFUL AND CONSTITUTIONAL. UNQUOTE.

3. LOCAL PRESS COVERAGE OF THESE STATEMENTS WAS MINIMAL AND  
FOCUSED ON REP. FINDLEY'S IMPRESSIONS OF HIS VISIT TO THE PRC  
AND HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH TENG HSIAO-PING. USING THE LEADLINE  
QTE CHINA DOESN'T MIND U.S. IN ASIA UNQTE, THE SOUTH CHINA  
MORNING POST REPORTED THESE AS FOLLOWS: QTE THE QUESTION OF  
U.S. WITHDRAWAL FROM THE PACIFIC WAS DISCUSSED DURING A  
MEETING BETWEEN THE CHINESE VICE-PREMIER, MR. TENG HSIA-PING,  
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AND A VISITING U.S. CONGRESSMAN, MR. PAUL FINDLEY, IN PEKING  
LAST WEEK.

AND THE IMPRESSION GAINED BY MR. FINDLEY WAS THAT THE CHINESE  
DID NOT MIND THE CONTINUED PRESENCE OF U.S. TROOPS IN THE  
REGION INNER QUOTE FOR NOW. END INNER QUOTE

THE CONGRESSMAN TOLD REPORTERS IN HONGKONG AFTER HIS CHINA  
VISIT THAT ALTHOUGH MR. TENG REITERATED THE CHINESE POSITION  
THAT NO NATION SHOULD STATION TROOPS ABROAD, INNER QUOTE THE CHINESE

SEEM ACTUALLY CONTENT WITH THE IDEA OF U.S. TROOPS REMAINING IN  
THE PACIFIC FOR NOW. END INNER QUOTE  
MR. FINDLEY'S BELIEF WAS THAT THE CHINESE INNER QUOTE HAVE SO MUCH TO  
DEAL WITH INTERNALLY THAT THEY DO NOT WISH TO HAVE THE ADDITIONAL  
PROBLEM OF SOVIET ENCIRCLEMENT TO CONTEND WITH. END INNER QUOTE  
MR. FINDLEY HAD SUGGESTED IN HIS TALKS WITH MR. TENG THAT A  
RAPID WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. TROOPS FROM SOUTH KOREA AND TAIWAN  
MIGHT LEAVE A POWER VACUUM ROUND CHINA FOR THE SOVIET UNION  
TO FILL.  
HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT CHINA WOULD USE ITS INFLUENCE ON  
NORTH KOREA TO PREVENT IT FROM INNER QUOTE ADVENTURISM, END INNER QUOTE  
TE  
AND PROMISED THAT THE U.S. WOULD DO THE SAME IN SOUTH KOREA.  
THE TWO LEADERS ALSO DISCUSSED SINO-AMERICAN RELATIONS AND  
POSSIBLE FURTHER EXCHANGES OF SCIENTIFIC AND AGRICULTURAL  
EXPERTS. UNQTE.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS CONFERENCES, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, PRESS RELEASES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 AUG 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750294-1180  
**From:** HONG KONG  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750818/aaaaapxm.tel  
**Line Count:** 132  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION H  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ellisoob  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 02 DEC 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <02 DEC 2003 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <07 JAN 2004 by ellisoob>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REP. FINDLEY MEETS THE PRESS IN HONG KONG  
**TAGS:** OREP, PFOR, KS, KN, (FINDLEY, PAUL)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006